

**ABSTRACT**

**SERUM ALBUMIN CONJUGATED TO FLUORESCENT  
SUBSTANCES FOR IMAGING**

Compositions and methods are disclosed for imaging tissue or a lymphatic or circulatory system, for example, in the near infrared. Dyes that emit wavelengths in the infrared or near infrared regions of the spectrum may be employed on their own, as combinations or complexed with serum albumin, or as part of a covalent conjugate with serum albumin.